II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 6 April 1977

authorizing the Italian Republic not to apply Community treatment to woven fabrics of cotton unbleached, falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of Korea and in free circulation in the other Member States

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(77/634/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular the first paragraph of Article 115 thereof,

Having regard to the application under the first paragraph of Article 115 of the Treaty, made on 1 April 1977 by the Government of the Italian Republic to the Commission by telex from the Office of its Permanent Representative to the European Communities, for authorization not to apply Community treatment to imports of woven fabrics of cotton unbleached, falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of Korea and in free circulation in the other Member States,

Whereas the importation into the Community of the products in question originating in the Republic of Korea is the subject of an Agreement negotiated between the Community and that country and signed on 22 December 1976;

Whereas, under the Agreement, the Republic of Korea has undertaken to take all necessary steps to limit its exports to the Community of woven cotton fabrics and synthetic textile fibres to a ceiling allocated among the Member States;

Whereas the allocation of that ceiling still involves certain disparities between the quota shares fixed for the various Member States and their supply requirements;

Whereas these disparities have caused an indirect flow to Italy of the products in question, originating in the Republic of Korea and in free circulation in the other Member States, which threatens to grow;

Whereas according to information supplied by the Italian Government there are serious economic difficulties in the branch of the industry concerned by the application, resulting in a progressive decline of production and a constant reduction of the number of workers employed in that sector;

Whereas indirect imports of the products in question, which would be in addition to those already effected, would be likely to aggravate those economic difficulties;

Whereas it is not possible at the present time to set in motion the machinery for bringing about the necessary cooperation from the other Member States;

Whereas authorization should accordingly be given for the application of protective measures under the first paragraph of Article 115, subject to the conditions laid down by the Commission Decision of 12 May 1971 (1), and in particular Article 1 thereof;

(1) OJ No L 121, 3. 6. 1971, p. 26.

Whereas the application for a licence which gave rise to the application under Article 115 should not be covered by this authorization in view of the small amount involved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

The Italian Republic is authorized not to apply Community treatment to woven fabrics of cotton, unbleached, falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, where they originate in the Republic of Korea and are in free circulation in the other Member States, and in respect of which applications for import licences were lodged after 1 April 1977.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply until new opportunities arise in the Italian Republic for the importation of the products in question from the Republic of Korea and in any case not later than 31 December 1977.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Italian Republic.

Done at Brussels, 6 April 1977.

For the Commission

Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President